

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SIL-01 LAB-06 COME-00 SAJ-01 L-03

NIC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15

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INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

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PASS COMMERCE AND LABOR

E.O.11652 NA

TAGS AORG ILO

SUBJ ILO-ELECTION OF DIRECTOR GENERAL

REF STATE 249753

1. CHARGE AND LABATT CALLED ON ADG TEVOEDJRE MORNING OF DECEMBER 27 AND POSED TO HIM QUESTIONS CONTAINED IN REFTEL. TEVOEDJRE LIKE BLANCHARD WAS FORTHCOMING AND UNIVERSALLY POSITIVE IN HIS REPLIES. HE WAS ALSO TOLD THAT USG HAS MADE NO DECISION ON DG. TEVOEDJRE'S COMMENTS FOLLOW IN ORDER OF SPECIFIC POINTS IN REFTEL.

A. TEVOEDJRE EXPLAINED THAT WITH NINE YEARS IN ILO HE CONSIDERS HIMSELF A NEWCOMER. HE RECOGNIZES GREAT NEED FOR CHANGE THAT WILL BE RESISTED BECAUSE OF OLD HABITS. HE BELIEVES EXISTING MACHINERY SUCH AS IN DEPTH REVIEWS CAN BE USE TO THOROUGHLY EXAMINE ALL AREAS OF ILO ACTIVITY. HE WOULD CONSIDER USE OF OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS TO SUPPLEMENT STAFF EFFORTS. HE WOULD WANT CONSULTATION WITH *ND SUPPORT OF GB IN IDENTIFYING AND ELIMINATING OBSOLETE PROGRAMS. HE IS NOT AWARE OF A PROGRAM NOW BEING FUNDED AT A LEVEL HIGHER THAN NECESSARY, BUT WOULD
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FAVOR A REDUCTION IF ONE WAS REVEALED. HE WOULD FAVOR NEW AREAS

OF ACTIVITY IF THEY COULD BE DETERMINED. HE WANTS THE ILO TO BE RELEVANT, BUT HE IS CONCERNED AT THE SKILL LEVEL OF THE STAFF AND THEIR ABILITY TO GRASP NEW OPPORTUNITIES. ONE ILO AREA THAT HE SINGLED OUT FOR ELEVATION AND REORGANIZATION WAS INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES.

B. HE SEES NO CONFLICT BETWEEN HIS VIEW AND US VIEW ON TRIPARTITISM, BUT BELIEVES THAT DG HAS LIMITED CAPACITY TO ACT. HE CAN ADDRESS HIMSELF TO PROBLEMS BROUGHT TO HIM, BUT INTERFERING IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF MEMBER STATES COULD CREATE TROUBLE FOR ILO. HE THINKS ILO WOULD DISAPPEAR IF IT CEASED TO BE TRIPARTITE SINCE MUCH OF ITS TECHNICAL OPERATIONS CAN BE DONE BY OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. HE WOULD WANT TO ENCOURAGE NATIONAL TRIPARTITE DISCUSSIONS AND GREATER TRIPARTITE PARTICIPATION IN PLANNING MACHINERY OF ILO.

C. TEVOEDJRE SAID THAT HE IS COMMITTED TO DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY. ALTHOUGH HE RECOGNIZES THAT ONLY ONE MAN, DG, CAN BE RESPONSIBLE TO GB, HE BELIEVES THAT DDGS AND ADGS SHOULD BE MORE THAN JUST ADJUNCTS TO OFFICE OF DG. THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN REAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAY TO DAY DETAILS. HE BELIEVES THAT OPERATING DEPARTMENTS SHOULD NOT REPORT DIRECTLY TO DG WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF AN OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING. HE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO CONSULT WITH USG ABOUT A QUALIFIED AMERICAN AS DDG TO HEAD UP ADMINISTRATION OF ILO. SEES A POTENTIAL PROBLEM WITH DENBY WHO WOULD LIKE PROMOTION TO *TREASURER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCE AND GENERAL SERVICES WHICH TEVOEDJRE WOULD INCLUDE UNDER ADMINISTRATION. POSSIBLE SOLUTION HE SUGGESTED WOULD BE PLACE DENBY IN CHARGE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING.

D. HE SAID THAT ANSWER WAS PARTLY INCLUDED IN A ABOVE WHEN HE SAID ALL ACTIVITIES OF ILO SHOULD BE THOROUGHLY REVIEWED. HE THINKS THAT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO TURN AROUND DG'S REPORT. BUT HIS CONCEPTION OF IT IS THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE DIVORCED FROM BASIC ILO PROGRAM ACTIVITIES. HE BELIEVES DG SHOULD PROPOSE FOR DISCUSSION IDEAS THAT CAN BE BASIS FOR ACTION. IT COULD ALSO BE PREPARED AS AN ANNUAL REPORT ON TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES. HE DOESN'T EXCLUDE A GENERAL DISCUSSION, BUT HE WOULD WANT CONCLUSIONS REACHED FOR ILO PROGRAM ACTION.

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E. HE STATED THAT MACHINERY EXISTS FOR DETERMINING VIOLATIONS OF RATIFIED STANDARDS AND DOESN'T UNDERSTAND WHY IT IS NOT USED. HE CONCEDED THAT ILO STANDARDS IS NOT ONE OF HIS STRONG POINTS, BUT INSISTED THAT DG SHOULD NOT BE INVOLVED IN ANY MANEUVERING TO ESTABLISH EXEMPTIONS FROM CHALLENGE AND EXAMINATION.

R. TEVOEDJRE SAID THAT HE WOULD HOPE TO MAKE GREATER USE OF THE OFFICERS OF THE GB AND WOULD CONSULT WITH A WIDE RANGE OF MEMBERS ON ALL ASPECTS OF ILO PLANNING.

2. COMMENT. TEVOEDJRE LIKE BLANCHARD HAD THE ANSWERS WE WANTED, ALTHOUGH HE TENDED TO BE A LITTLE MORE PHILOSOPHICAL AT TIMES. TEVOEDJRE UNDERSTANDS US INTERESTS IN THE ILO AND SEEMS TO SYMPATHIZE WITH THEM. HE WANTS TO GET THE ILO ONTO A MORE PRODUCTIVE TRACK THAN IT HAS BEEN UNDER JENKS, BUT HE KNOWS THAT HIS CONSTITUENTS HAVE DEMONSTRATED MARKEDLY LESS INTEREST IN SERIOUS PROGRAM INITIATIVES IN THE ILO THAN THEY HAVE IN STRUCTURE DEBATES. HE WILL HAVE TO CONVINCE HIS AFRICAN COLLEAGUES THAT THEIR REAL INTERESTS IN THE ILO ARE ANCHORED IN MORE EFFECTIVE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS, NOT IN THE ELECTION OF SOCIALIST MANAGERS TO THE EMPLOYERS GROUP OF THE GOVERNING BODY. TEVOEDJRE IS YOUNG (44) AND EXTREMELY AMBITIOUS. HIS MOTIVATIONS SEEM SOUND, BUT THE PRESSURES ON HIM WILL BE ENORMOUS.BASSIN

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